

Message Text

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17

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-10 OMB-01 SCCT-01 SAM-01 ACDA-05 SR-02

ORM-01 SAJ-01 NIC-01 /076 W

----- 118543

R 150955Z NOV 74

FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6296

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USUN NEW YORK 1702

LIMITED OFFICIAL JERUSALEM 2012

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PBOR, IS JO

SUBJ: WEST BANK REACTION TO ARAFAT UN SPEECH

1. WEST BANK AND EAST JERUSALEM ARAB REACTION TO ARAFAT UN SPEECH BEST SUMMARIZED BY COMMENTARIES OF ARABIC DAILIES EL QUDS AND AS SHAAB WHICH REPRESENT OPPOSITE ENDS OF POLITICAL SPECTRUM ON WEST BANK. EDITORIALS REFLECT GENERAL REACTION TO SPEECH CONGEN FOUND AMONG ARAB POPULATION.

2. EL QUDS, ALLEGEDLY FINANCIALLY SUPPORTED BY KING HUSSEIN AND VIEWED AS PRO-HASEMITE BY THE PLO, DESCRIBED SPEECH SAYING "WE DO NOT BELIEVE THERE COULD BE A MORE EXPRESSIVE AND PRECISE STATEMENT OF DESIRE FOR LASTING PEACE THAN PALESTINIAN VOICE WHICH WAS HEARD YESTERDAY FROM THE UN PULPIT FROM YASSER ARAFAT... ARAFAT SUMMED UP ASPIRATIONS OF PALESTINIANS TOGETHER WITH THEIR CONDITIONS FOR REALIZATION OF PEACE REPRESENTED IN RIGHT OF

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SELF-DETERMINATION, ESTABLISHMENT OF A NATIONAL AUTHORITY AND

RETURN OF REFUGEES..." PRO-PLO AS SHAAB, EQUALLY WARM IN ITS PRAISE OF ARAFAT'S SPEECH, POINTED UP THE IMPLIED THREAT THAT IF THE OLIVE BRANCH DID NOT PROSPER THE GUN WOULD BE THE ONLY ALTERNATIVE.

3. COMMENT: CONGEN SOUNDING OF ARAB OPINION ABOUT ARAFAT UN
SPEECH FOUND UNANIMITY OF PRAISE FOR IT EXPRESSED IN TERMS
SIMILAR TO EDITORIALS. WE BELIEVE FEW WEST BANK PALESTINIANS
OF WHATEVER POLITICAL LEANINGS WOULD TAKE ISSUE WITH SPEECH.
PALESTINIAN HISTORY OUTLINED BY ARAFAT IS DEEPLY FELT BY ALL OF
THEM. WE FOUND LITTLE FOCUS, IN ARAB COMMENTS, ON PALESTINIAN
GOALS THAT ARAFAT WORKED INTO HIS SPEECH, WHICH TENDS TO CONFIRM
OUR EXPERIENCE THAT PRECISE GOALS ARE STILL NOT ACTIVELY ON THE
AVERAGE MAN'S AGENDA.
DAY

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Message Attributes

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